

US ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY, REGION II

PROGRESS POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADING

Date: December 14, 1994
From: Joseph V. Cosentino, OSC *Joseph Cosentino*
To: J. Fox, EPA
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K. Delaney, NJDEP
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TAT

Subject: Bayonne Barrel and Drum. Newark,
Essex County, New Jersey

POLREP No: Twelve (12), Progress Polrep

II. BACKGROUND

Response Authority: CERCLA
NPL Status: Non-NPL
Site Number: 9J
Action Memorandum Status: Verbal Authorization granted
on 7-14-94, action memo approved
9-2-94
Start Date: 7-14-94

III. INCIDENT INFORMATION

See Initial Polrep

IV. REMOVAL INFORMATION



A. Actions Taken

1. The primary activity, the inspection and shredding of drums from the "empty" drum piles containing an estimated 40,000 to 45,000 drums, continued. A number of the containers have retained their integrity and still contain hazardous substances. Contents of the unlabeled and unmarked drums are poured into a holding tank prior to their shredding. Unmarked and unlabeled drums containing solids are being staged in building No. 1 for subsequent hazcatting and consolidation. Approximately 537 drums are being inspected and shredded on a daily basis. To date 12,897 drums have been shredded. The resultant metal is being sold to a local recycler.

A large quantity of the drums are lined with poly liners. These drums were used to store corrosives. Each one of these drums will have to be individually deheaded so that the liners can be removed prior to shredding. Bid for the mobilization and use of deheading equipment have been received and deheading operations are planned for the first week in January, 1995.

2. As part of the enforcement efforts at this site drums with markings and labels are being segregated and the information documented in an attempt to identify potential PRPs.

Many of these drums have hazardous waste labels containing hazardous waste manifest numbers, this information is being processed by New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to identify the generators and transporters of the drums and waste residues. A number of these drums contain liquid and solid material, some in excess of the RCRA definition of an empty container as defined in 40 CFR, Part 261, Subpart A, _____ 261.7. A sampling plan for the sampling of these drums has been prepared, samples collected and submitted for analysis in an attempt to identify hazardous wastes and substances. Additional sampling will be initiated as additional drums are discovered.

A meeting was held between the site attorney, Marc Seidenberg and the site OSCs to discuss the enforcement strategy developed for the site and PRP information generated as a result ongoing PRP search. As a result, Notice Letters to two PRPs were drafted for ORC review and concurrence.

3. Analytical results from samples collected from the drums presently staged in the warehouse are due. The OSC met with ERCS Chemist to discuss the analytical findings on the ash

and furnace courtyard samples. Data for several of the ash piles was found to be incomplete.

4. Due to a number of ERCS operational as well as health and safety concerns, the OSC has requested that ERCS provide a HSO to review site operations provide further recommendations. An ERCS site health and safety officer is scheduled to review site operations on December 14, 1994.

5. Due to equipment failure and OHMs inability to repair and/or replace equipment in a timely and cost effective manner, drum shredding operations were halted and the ERCS crew demobed, until equipment repairs are made. It appears that OHM is experiencing credit problems with various vendors, with vendor demanding cash for goods and services. This is impacting site operations, and all resulting cost associated from equipment failure are being disputed.

6. The OSC submitted a draft Action Memorandum to request a ceiling increase to address the continued stabilization and identification of materials wastes found at the site.

B. Next Steps

Site security during EPA core work hours has been terminated. Security will arrive at 1700 hours and remain until 0700 hours. Drum shredding operations will continue.

PRP search activities will be ongoing and include sampling events to document hazardous wastes and hazardous substances. It is anticipated that a number of PRPs can be brought in under an Administrative Order to complete Phase II activities.

C. KEY ISSUES

None

V. COST INFORMATION

Mitigation Contracting	\$568,393
TAT	24,687
Intramural	22,400
Total	615,480
Project Ceiling	\$1,135,000
Percent of funds remaining	54%